Requirement ID: 887

Sponsor Organization: AFS POC: Bob Wright

Requirement Title: FAA/Industry Training Standards (FITS)

Funded Requirement:

- FY02: Yes (AFS-800 funds)
- FY03: Yes
- FY04: Yes
- FY05: Yes

Requirement Statement: A number of people from industry, academia, and the Federal Aviation Administration believe that the general aviation training programs do not have the flexibility to adapt to the wide variety of aviation technology (e.g., GPS, multifunction displays with moving map navigation, and traffic, weather, and terrain avoidance systems) that has recently emerged in the national airspace. With older technology systems, it did not matter who built the system since they all functioned and looked similar. However, with new technology, systems that perform similar functions may not look alike and pilot interaction with these systems may be completely different. Consequently, a "one-size-fits-all" approach to training may no longer be adequate. FAA/Industry Training Standards (FITS) will attempt to overcome the limitations of existing training programs by working in collaboration with industry to develop new and innovative training methods to ensure that pilots are trained and maintain proficiency in aircraft that contain new technology. New training methods emphasize improved risk management, training and education, and proper use of new technology.1155

Background: Within the past five years, avionics manufacturers have developed a large number of general aviation products to improve pilots'' situational awareness. Although these products are advertised to enhance safety and efficiency, there are a number of skeptics who question the utility of these products. In fact, many in the general aviation community believe that some of these aviation products are training intensive and present complex human factors issues that must be resolved to obtain the full safety benefits or, in some cases, to avoid creating new safety issues. The purpose of the FAA/Industry Training Standards (FITS) program will be to develop a flexible but robust general aviation training programs that can be tailored to integrate different technologies into any aircraft platform.

The FITS training program would be web-based documentation repository that would contain the FAA/Industry training standards most up-to-date information to support general aviation guidelines, standards and certification, and other materials. The FITS database would contain training standards for specific technologies by aircraft type. For example, a flight instructor preparing an

instrument student would access the FITS website and select the instrument training module standard that matches the aircraft type and avionics installed in the aircraft. The FITS instrument-training program would contain real-world scenarios based on problem solving and case study examples with defined metrics for evaluation on aeronautical decision making, information management and risk management.

Output: Near term products:
Establish web site that will distribute FITS information, Establish template for FITS products, Publish Advisory Circular on FITS, Aviation safety inspector training and guidance, Designated examiner guidance.

Future Products:
Transition training, Type specific aircraft training, Type rating training, Special training (i.e. R-22, MU-2), Recurrent training, Currency requirements, Equipment training (i.e. GPS, HITS, MFD/PFD), Specific avionics equipment training, Ab-initio training for professional pilots, Ab-initio training for non-professional (enthusiast) pilots, First officer training, Designated examiner/FAA inspector training, Flight instructor renewal, Possible 14 CFR part 135 training

Regulatory Link: none